

A message from our President:

When historians look back at February of 2016 they will note the fall of two giants in their field. One that spoke to our baser fears and one that voiced our better angels.

To many, Justice Antonin Scalia was the antithesis of his title, putting political ideology and religious beliefs before the Constitutional laws he was sworn to protect. Scalia was a sadly successful attempt to pull our Nation as far to the right politically as possible. From his bench Scalia espoused fear and bigotry, bile and hatred to anyone who dared be born different than himself. Women, African Americans, Latinos, members of the LGBT community and many more all were belittled and attacked by Scalia, giving a veneer of respectability to the Conservatives who attacked those same groups. Antonin Scalia shall be missed by his family, but his absence from the Supreme Court is a day of relief to a Country held hostage by his rhetoric for too long.

As if to balance the cosmic scales, when removing a great evil the universe saw fit to take from us a beacon of enlightenment. Harper Lee's loss to not just the literary community, but to the world at large leaves a crater in the hearts of many. For many, *To Kill A Mockingbird* was more than just a book, it was the birth of an idea in them. An idea that you stand up for what is right, even when it is not popular. An idea that the easy choice is not always the right choice. That even though you may lose, the victories are longer lasting and sweeter when gained by conviction. A Democrat in Arizona learns often that standing up for what's right isn't easy and there are many loses along the way, but when we win those battles that are worth fighting we stand taller and know Scout would be proud.

DGT stands to educate members on important issues of the day so we can challenge those who seek to follow the example set forth by Scalia and his ilk. Harper Lee may no longer be with us, but her message informs our character. Thank you to our members for always being willing to fight for Arizona! If you have not renewed your membership for 2016 please do so either at our next meeting or by clicking here. https://secure.actblue.com/contribute/page/dgt_dues-n-donations